

AMENDED IN SENATE MAY 17, 2006
AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JANUARY 12, 2006
AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JANUARY 4, 2006
CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2005–06 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 1478

Introduced by Assembly Member Frommer

February 22, 2005

An act to add ~~Section 4435~~ *Sections 4435 and 4688.7* to the Welfare and Institutions Code, relating to developmental services.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1478, as amended, Frommer. Developmental services: ~~autism spectrum disorders.~~ *services.*

Existing law, the Lanterman Developmental Disabilities Services Act, establishes the State Department of Developmental Services and sets forth its duties and responsibilities, including, but not limited to, the administration and oversight of the state developmental centers and programs relating to persons with developmental disabilities. Existing law requires the department to allocate funds to private nonprofit regional centers for the provision of community services and support for persons with developmental disabilities and their families.

~~Existing~~

(1) Existing law requires the department to develop evaluation and diagnostic procedures for the diagnosis of autism disorder and other autistic spectrum disorders.

This bill would, in addition, require the department, *in consultation with specified state departments*, to develop ~~a blueprint~~ *guidelines* for

the treatment of autism spectrum disorders and to disseminate the information to parents.

(2) Existing law authorizes the purchase of services by regional centers for eligible consumers, including, but not limited to, residential and community care services. Existing law authorizes the department to approve prescribed regional center proposals related to securing housing for consumers.

This bill would, notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, authorize the department to authorize regional centers to use purchase-of-services funds to pay startup costs of programs related to housing eligible consumers.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 4435 is added to the Welfare and
2 Institutions Code, to read:

3 4435. (a) The department, in consultation with the State
4 Department of Education, the Department of Managed Health
5 Care, the Department of Insurance, the State Department of
6 Health Services, the State Department of Social Services, the
7 State Department of Mental Health, *one or more representatives*
8 *of the regional centers*, and other agencies as appropriate, shall
9 develop ~~a blueprint~~ *guidelines* for the treatment of autism
10 spectrum disorders in children that shall include, at a minimum,
11 all of the following:

12 (1) An identification and description of the different types of
13 interventions appropriate for autism spectrum disorders,
14 including, but not limited to, all of the following:

15 (A) Speech and language therapy.

16 (B) Behavioral therapy.

17 (C) Play therapy.

18 (D) Occupational therapy.

19 (E) Psychotherapy.

20 (F) Medication.

21 (G) Tutoring.

22 (H) *Biomedical treatment*.

23 (2) An identification of the types of interventions that would
24 be recommended as best practices according to the age and the

1 particular needs of the consumer, based on the type of autism
2 spectrum disorder. To the extent possible, the ~~blueprint~~
3 *guidelines* shall build upon the work already undertaken by the
4 department in producing its Autism Spectrum Disorders Best
5 Practice Guidelines for Screening, Diagnosis and Assessment.

6 (3) For each type of intervention, an identification or
7 description of the type of provider of the service, indicating
8 whether there are special licenses or certifications required of the
9 service provider.

10 (4) For each type of intervention, an identification of the
11 potential sources available to pay for the intervention, including
12 private health insurance, public health coverage programs,
13 special education, developmental center and regional center
14 funding, other public funding, and private payment.

15 (b) In developing the ~~blueprint~~ *guidelines*, the department
16 shall seek input from experts in a variety of disciplines including,
17 but not limited to, all of the following:

18 (1) Education.

19 (2) Special education.

20 (3) Mental health.

21 (4) County health services.

22 (5) Parents.

23 (6) Speech and language therapists.

24 (7) Occupational therapists.

25 (8) Behavioral therapists.

26 (9) Regional centers.

27 (10) Health insurance.

28 (c) The department shall disseminate the information
29 contained in the ~~blueprint~~ *guidelines* in ways that are designed to
30 maximize its usefulness to parents seeking services for their
31 children. Examples for dissemination may include development
32 of a brochure that can be provided to parents and a poster that
33 can be displayed by providers.

34 *SEC. 2. Section 4688.7 is added to the Welfare and*
35 *Institutions Code, to read:*

36 *4688.7. Notwithstanding any provision of law, including, but*
37 *not limited to, Section 4781.5, the department may authorize*

- 1 *regional centers to expend purchase-of-services funds for startup*
- 2 *costs of programs related to housing eligible consumers.*

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